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Inception Explains the Power of the Mind, Starring Leonardo DiCaprio

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By [Adrienne Papp](#)

Although *Inception* was first released in July of 2010 on the big screen, and was clearly a new kind of entertainment, not all of us can fit a cinema visit into our hectic lives. But, the movie was just released on [Apple TV](#) and other convenient home cinema channels, which I bet half of America prefers to cinemas these days. I certainly do. Sometimes you can see the film on Apple TV BEFORE it is in theaters. For those who have not seen *Inception*, I dare to say they will love it and be stuck on the silver screen with their minds going a million miles an hour!

The mind-wrenching psychosocial drama was based on the concept of technology as corporate espionage entering the human mind during the dream state and stealing whatever secrets it wanted from the victim. Directed by [Christopher Nolan](#), the movie featured a cast of A-listers (who have 7 Academy Awards or nominations amongst them, including [Leonardo DiCaprio](#), [Michael Caine](#), [Marion Cotillard](#) and [Ellen Page](#)), *Inception* was a huge international hit, grossing over \$800 million around the world, and set a new standard for mind-twisting special effects in a psychological fantasy, in the same way *The Matrix* did for sci-fi when it was released in 1999.

Nolan, whose other films include *The Dark Knight*, has become one of Hollywood's most interesting filmmakers, and his projects now attract the cream of Hollywood talent. *Inception's* high concept plot, while incorporating many state-of-the-art CG effects, is not purely an exercise in special effects for their own sake. "The most compelling sci-fi isn't really about the hardware," Nolan says, "it's about the human drama inside the machinery of the story. It's always ideas, characters and stories that resonate, not the trappings that surround them. But if you can combine the character and story elements with the large canvas of film, the scale of it and the visual power of it, that can be something very special."

And *Inception* is a very special film, done in a unique Nolan-esque style, which DiCaprio calls "a classic approach at filmmaking and art," where many of the special effects rely on old school mechanical manipulation instead of mouse-pad pixilation. That this was not just an effects-driven fantasy film was one of the key drawing points for DiCaprio:

"I've never done a film even in the science fiction genre, so for me it was important to have characters that, even though they go into these four different stages of the dreamscape, they're also very grounded in a kind of an emotional reality," DiCaprio says. "And my character has a very specific cathartic journey that he goes on in this film to come to terms with his past and the love of his wife in the dreamscape. We spent three months just talking about this film."

Though the film went on to become one of the year's biggest hits and is now being discussed as a solid [Oscar](#) contender in key Best Film, Best Director, Best Screenplay and Best Actor categories, it began as a stealth project where not a lot about the movie's plot could be given away.

"I like that this film was shrouded in a little bit of mystery," DiCaprio says. "I like that there were a lot of questions about it. And I also feel it's a thinking person's film, and people will extract their own sort of logic from it and have their own interpretation of it, and those are the types of films I'd love to be a part of more often."



Now, heading into awards season, *Inception* represents a winning combination of huge box office, strong critical praise, and an elite cast and director. It's a clear contender in best film categories and should collect a lion's share of industry acclaim, in addition to its awesome box office numbers.



Inception is an example what can happen when a high concept idea meets innovative filmmaking and A-list creative talent. "We were very conscious about the intricacy of this plot in this film," says DiCaprio, "how it really combines so many different story

structures together. And Nolan was very specific about saying, 'I don't want to underestimate the audience. I want to challenge them and I want to encompass everything that I can spectacle-wise, special effects-wise, but emotionally and plot structure-wise it has to be everything.' This is a grand culmination of thought for him, and I think he pulled it off with flying colors. I really do,"he adds. "I am playing [Dom Cobb](#), a really skilled thief, but a skilled thief with a difference, because all my thefts come from deep within the subconscious of other people, when they are dreaming, and when the mind is at its most vulnerable. So it's a heist movie – but with a huge difference," DiCaprio says.

And this very interesting phenomena about the human mind (or, a product of our brain, which is the mind) is actually very real in quantum physics and as we move even further and combine [Neurogenesis](#) into the equation, we actually get what DiCaprio does in the film. However, we do not believe that what is shown in the film is possible. Just like we do not believe that the environment is the extension of the mind, which is an axiom in [Quantum Physics](#). Soon however, I trust that Quantum Physics will be spread wide enough for humanity to understand its own capabilities and power of the mind. Everything is actually the product of how we think! So, what the movie portrays in a "stealing" fashion can actually be used for the good and literally change people's lives. I think the film is brilliant and DiCaprio delivers a performance we are used to from him: passionate and perfect!

About the Author of This Article: [Lady Adrienne Papp](#) is a recognized journalist who has written for many publications including Savoir, Beverly Hills 90210, Malibu Beach, Santa Monica Sun, The Beverly Hills Times, Brentwood News, Bel-Air View, Celebrity Society, Celeb Staff, It Magazine, Chic Today, LA2DAY, [West Side Today](#) among many others. She is the President and CEO of Los Angeles / New York-based publicity company, [Atlantic Publicity](#) and publishing house, [Atlantic Publisher](#). Adrienne writes about world trends, [Quantum Physics](#), entertainment and interviews celebrities, world leaders, inventors, philanthropists and entrepreneurs. She also owns [Atlantic United Films](#) that produces and finances true stories made for theatrical release or the silver screen. [Spotlight News Magazine](#) is owned by [Atlantic United, Inc](#) with [Adrienne Papp](#) being the majority shareholder.



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Brittany, London
Dec 19, 2010, 8:43

You are right, Leonardo DiCaprio was terrific in that movie. Also, I liked the fact that they left so much to the understanding of the viewer. That is important!
Great article,
Brittany



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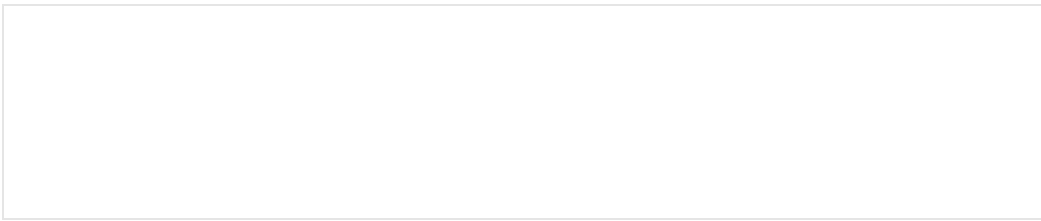
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